

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services



Executive Order No. 536: Establishing the Chapter 257 of the Acts of 2008 Provider and Consumer Advisory Council

April 17, 2014

www.mass.gov/hhs/chapter257

Agenda

- Chapter 257 Current Status
- Updated POS Rate Implementation Plan
- CommBuys and SDP Updates
- Update on Salary Snapshot Report



Chapter 257 – Current Status

The current Chapter 257 status is noted below –

Status	FY13 Spending	%	Overall
Regulated	\$1,567,338,118	70.0%	
Procurement	\$110,433,909	4.9%	75.0%
Hearing	\$3,290,550	0.1%	75.1%
Development	\$330,034,650	14.7%	89.8%
Planned	\$227,257,641	10.2%	
Grand Total	\$2,238,354,869		

Updated POS Rate Implementation Plan

- Represents an extensive effort by staff at EOHHS and agencies.
- Revisited all of the programs to confirm alignment within rate projects.
- Program coding changes over time, particularly to realign with procurements. Some codes have been added, and some are no longer in use and have been removed.
- New format replaces one which had previously been separated by Project Year, with some program codes replicated in the case of a rate review.
- Two reports using similar formats –
 - Initial Rate Development = rates are not yet established
 - Established Rates = programs that have regulated rates
- Broken into categories to note where they are in the rate process.
- Report will be posted on the Ch. 257 website.

CommBuys – Registration Needed

- The Operational Services Division (OSD) replaced CommPASS with COMMBUYS on March 24. As of March 24, all procurements (now known as Bids) will be posted on COMMBUYS.
- Providers will need to register in COMMBUYS if want to be notified of Bid opportunities. Responses (now known as Quotes) to Bids issued after July 1 must be submitted electronically through COMMBUYS.
- As part of the roll-out, OSD has reached out to vendors, but we have found that their focus is commodity-based services and statewide contracts.
- EOHHS agencies will be reaching out to their providers to alert them of the change, and encourage registration.
- We are developing a registration job aid that is based on one developed by OSD that is more accessible to POS vendors.
- What more can we do to ensure that everyone is aware of the change and registers?

Supplier Diversity Program Updates

- In October 2013, OSD announced an update to the SDP program that would have required that a certain percent of state contract dollars be set aside for M/WBEs and SDVOBE by procurement. 10% of the total evaluation points per procurement was designated for SDP. Providers would also have to report quarterly SDP spending to EHS Agencies.
- Providers alerted OSD and EHS to difficulties implementing this change. Staff from EHS, DPH and DCF developed an alternative proposal that recognizes that most POS contract dollars are spent on staff salaries and benefits, so a set-aside percent by contract would not be appropriate.
- Instead, the proposal anticipates an annual commitment and reporting by the provider organization of total M/WBE and SDVOBE spending.
- The format and reporting systems are still being developed, but we would like your feedback on the overall process.
- Tentative roll out of POS alternative is scheduled for June.

Salary Snapshot Report Update

- EOHHS has identified a need for additional salary information from POS contracts to support several purposes –
 - Having a consistent data source for rate development and review.
 - Tracking direct care salary levels over time, and assessing the impact of Ch. 257 rates on those levels.
 - Supporting contract monitoring by EHS agencies to replace Attachment 3 contract detail.
- PCAC Members have provided constructive feedback on the original design for the salary snapshot report, and as result, EHS has refined it in a number of key respects.
 - Rather than individual entries per employee, data will be aggregated by similar job title, with fields to capture minimum and maximum hourly rate.
 - Timing – First report will be for data as of July 1, 2014, due to EHS on Friday, August 15, 2014.

Wrap-up, Next Meeting

Next Scheduled Meeting, Matta Conference Room

- July 17, 2014 – 2:00-3:00